

REMARKS

Applicants concurrently file herewith a Request for Continued Examination, (RCE) and a Petition for Extension of Time, and corresponding extension of time and RCE fees.

Claims 1-7 and 9-20 are all of the claims presently pending in the application. Applicants have canceled claim 8 without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicants have amended claim 1 to define the claimed invention more particularly.

It is noted that the claim amendments are made only for more particularly pointing out the invention, and not for distinguishing the invention over the prior art, narrowing the claims or for any statutory requirements of patentability. Further, Applicants specifically state that no amendment to any claim herein should be construed as a disclaimer of any interest in or right to an equivalent of any element or feature of the amended claim.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's indication that claims 3, 8, 10, 12-13, and 17 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicants respectfully submit that all of claims are allowable.

Applicants, however, merely in an effort to speed prosecution, have incorporated the allowable subject matter of claim 8 into independent claim 1.

Should the Examiner find the application to be other than in condition for allowance, Applicants requests the Examiner to contact the undersigned at the local telephone number listed below to discuss any other changes deemed necessary in a telephonic or personal interview.

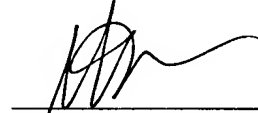
Serial No. 10/526,980
Docket No. 040116

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The undersigned authorizes the Commissioner to charge any deficiency in fees or to credit any overpayment in fees to Attorney's Deposit Account No. 50-0481.

Date: March 17, 2008

Respectfully Submitted,



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